

7-2010

## The Beat: July 2010

CentraCare Health

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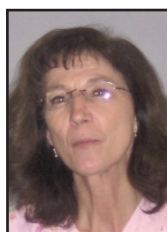
**Do you have an idea for the *Beat*?**

Contact Chris Nelson  
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## Dedicated employees enjoy fast pace in the ER

CentraCare Health System operates emergency rooms in St. Cloud, Long Prairie and Melrose. All have dedicated employees who are passionate about their work.

**Donna Yohnke, RN**, Long Prairie emergency room coordinator, has worked at Long Prairie Hospital for more than 20 years. As a float nurse, she enjoys working in the ER most. “I get so much satisfaction taking care of critically ill patients,” she said. “They are so sick and vulnerable when they come in, and you can make such a difference in their lives.”



Donna Yohnke, RN,  
Long Prairie

**Eileen Maus, RN**, Melrose emergency room coordinator, has been a nurse there for 35 years and has always had exposure to the ER setting. “Working in a small rural hospital ER always has been interesting,” she said. “We see a wide variety of cases from simple ear infections to trauma codes. I like the fast pace and get great satisfaction helping patients through a crisis situation.”



Eileen Maus, RN,  
Melrose

**Terri Hansen, RN**, core charge nurse, has worked in the Emergency Trauma Center at St. Cloud Hospital for 20 years. She enjoys the different challenges in the ER and says no two days are alike. Terri also likes her co-workers. “I work with such a great team in the ER,” she said. “We’re a unique group who work well together.” She also gets great satisfaction working with pediatric patients. “Knowing I’ve touched the life of a child is so rewarding to me,” she said. “They make such a difference in my life.”



Terri Hansen, RN,  
St. Cloud

Emergency room visits last year:

- Long Prairie: **3,010**
- Melrose: **1,659**
- St. Cloud: **55,436**

## Advanced practice providers help ensure access to care

**By Terry Pladson, MD, President**

As CentraCare and health systems across the country face physician shortages in primary care and certain subspecialties, we increasingly rely on advanced practice providers (APPs) to ensure that people have access to the care they need.



APPs in our system include physician assistants (PAs), nurse practitioners (NPs), midwives (CNMs) and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs). You may hear these professionals referred to as mid-level providers or physician extenders, but the preferred term is advanced practice providers.

We are fortunate to have 85 APPs working in various parts of CentraCare Health System – and many working at independent clinics around the region. During calendar year 2009 alone, we recruited 14 APPs who are working in the St. Cloud metro region and at CentraCare sites in Melrose, Long Prairie and Big Lake.

APPs have advanced classroom and clinical training. They are certified and/or credentialed to provide care in a range of inpatient and outpatient settings. They enhance our ability to see patients in the clinic, provide emergency care, perform procedures, and care for hospitalized patients.

APPs work closely with the hospitalists in St. Cloud.

Numerous studies have concluded that APPs can significantly improve access and help provide high-quality medical care for our patients. APPs are essential to many of our care teams and have large practices of grateful patients.

## Personalized health info is just a click away

Sign up today for *My Healthy News*, a free, monthly e-newsletter from CentraCare Health System at [www.centracare.com/newsletter](http://www.centracare.com/newsletter). You choose the topics and services that matter to you. Then we send up-to-date information from national health resources that's personalized to your needs and interests. Sign up by July 30 to receive a free digital thermometer and enter a drawing for an iPod Shuffle!

## Adventures in Aging

Ron Schara and Raven, from Minnesota Bound on KARE 11 TV, will be the featured speaker at the 2010 Expo for Seniors on Aug. 21 at Whitney Senior Center in St. Cloud. This free event, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., provides seniors and adult children with information on senior resources available in Central Minnesota. For more information, call the Senior Linkage Line at (800) 333-2433 or visit [www.expoforseniors.com](http://www.expoforseniors.com). Sponsored in part by St. Benedict's Senior Community.

## Clinic quality recognized

Several CentraCare Clinic sites recently received achievement and improvement rewards in diabetes and vascular care from the Buyer's Health Care Action Group Minnesota Bridges to Excellence program. CentraCare Clinic – Becker was recognized for achievement in diabetes and vascular care; Health Plaza - Internal Medicine in vascular care; River Campus - Internal Medicine in diabetes care; and Melrose in diabetes care. CentraCare Clinic - Heartland qualified in the improvement category for diabetes and vascular care; Health Plaza - Family Medicine for vascular care; and Central Minnesota Heart Center for vascular care. For more information, visit [www.bhcag.com](http://www.bhcag.com).

## Lab receives national accreditation

CentraCare Clinic – Heartland's laboratory received the Laboratory Excellence Award from the Commission on Office Laboratory Accreditation, a national health care accreditation organization.

## Bakke chosen as future leader

Christine Bakke, Gorecki Care Center administrator, has been chosen by the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living — along with 31 other long-term care professionals from across the nation — to participate in a leadership program that offers training and guidance for long-term care professionals. Individuals chosen for the program have demonstrated leadership potential and an aptitude for representing the interests of long-term care providers at the state and national levels.



Christine Bakke

## Wound Center coming soon

The CentraCare Wound Center, a service of St. Cloud Hospital, is expected to open this fall under the medical direction of Denise Buruse, DO, who will join us in September. This center will offer the latest in hyperbaric medicine to aggressively treat problem wounds and promote rapid healing. The center will be located in the 2035 Plaza Building on 15th Street North. Under this new model, all outpatient wound care will be provided by Dr. Buruse and a panel of five other physicians from the community who will undergo special training. For more information, contact Bob Johnson, Central Minnesota Heart Center.

## Improving care for autism

CentraCare is participating with seven other teams from Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Health - MN Children with Special Health Needs and the Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to improve care for patients with autism and other developmental disabilities.

## Understanding Alzheimer's

Mary Bauer, from the Alzheimer's Association, will present "Understanding Alzheimer's Disease" from 2-3 p.m. Aug. 19 on the campus of St. Benedict's Senior Community- Monticello. The presentation is free, but space is limited. Call (763) 295-4051 for reservations.

## McCaffrey receives national recognition

Congratulations to Terri McCaffrey, RN, national winner of the 2010 Spirit of Women Healthcare Hero award. McCaffrey, a clinical nurse specialist with St. Cloud Hospital's Women & Children's Center received the award July 9 during the Spirit of Women's National Awards celebration in Boca Raton, Fla.



Terri McCaffrey, RN

McCaffrey helped to start the bereavement program in 1989 which helps those who experience miscarriage work through their grief in a dignified manner.

In 1990, McCaffrey and her husband established the Community Pregnancy Resource Center. McCaffrey also was a key component in creating the world-class Cleft & Craniofacial Center in 2000, which serves more than 100 families a year. She has gone on mission trips to China and Guatemala to give medical care to children with cleft and craniofacial deformities and burns.

## Hard hat tours offered

CentraCare Health System employees are invited to attend one of four hard hat tours of St. Cloud Hospital construction. The first tour is 8 a.m. July 29. Visit the Messenger tab on CentraNet for a complete list of tour dates, times and details. Tours are limited to 10 people and spots will be reserved on a first-come basis. If you're interested in attending, RSVP at least one week prior to the tour date to Angela Ebnet, CentraCare Health Foundation, ext. 59207 or e-mail [ebneta@centracare.com](mailto:ebneta@centracare.com).

## Benefactor list available

An updated Employee Campaign benefactor list now is available at [www.centracare.com](http://www.centracare.com) under the Foundation tab. Through the generosity of 1,974 employees, the CentraCare Health System Employee Campaign has raised \$2.58 million to help support the five-year Caring for Generations Capital Campaign!